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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Italy

DATE:

25X1C

SUBJECT

Contact Between the South Tirol  
Volkspartei (SVP) and the Nenni  
Socialists

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letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

11 August 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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1. [redacted] the South Tirolese majority in the autonomous district should be recognized legally. To this end the South Tirolese should be given a real autonomy and their linguistic and ethnical rights, in particular, should be fully guaranteed.

2. The Trentiners, on the other hand, have no right to their own autonomous administration. In their original proposals the Nenni Socialists (PSI) foresaw an autonomy for the region "Tirolo transalpino". Now, following the change of government in Rome, they can no longer sponsor an autonomy for "Tirolo transalpino" alone, as they would be the only party to back such a solution. Moreover, they must consider their party in Trentino, and consequently today could not vote against the inclusion of the Trentino in the autonomous region.

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3. They feel, however, that the South Tirolese are entitled to the name of "Tirol" in some form, and are opposed to the description "Alto Adige". They are also opposed to the government proposal of "Trentino-Alto Adige".

[redacted] is of the opinion that some such description as "le valli atesine" or "le valli dell'Adige" would be preferable, as this would leave the question open as to whether it was one autonomous region or two separate autonomous territories. His party will probably suggest one of these names if they cannot find a better one. [redacted] advised the SVP to enlist the support of individual members of the Costituente for the name "Tirol", and that he believed that their chances were good.

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4. [redacted] believes that the idea of a regional autonomy, divided into two separate territories, should not be rejected as De Gasperi himself strongly advocates it.

Document No. [redacted]  
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- 25X1X 5. [ ] the SVP would never give up its claim to a separate autonomy and that if necessary it would appeal to the "guaranteeing Powers". This apparently impressed [ ] who advised against such a step. The SVP representatives stated that they would only take it as a last resort.
- 25X1X 6. [ ] he was going to meet the Austrian Vice-Chancellor Schärff shortly, and would discuss the South Tirol problem with him.
- 25X1X 7. [ ] is opposed to the autonomous territory of South Tirol extending to Salerno, since he is of the opinion that the majority of the inhabitants of Salerno are Italians, and further that Salerno should form a bridge rather than a point of separation, between the purely Italian-speaking and the mixed language-speaking territories.

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